

# Union Calendar No. 628

115TH CONGRESS  
2D SESSION

# H. R. 5793

[Report No. 115-809]

To authorize the Secretary of Housing and Urban Development to carry out a housing choice voucher mobility demonstration to encourage families receiving such voucher assistance to move to lower-poverty areas and expand access to opportunity areas.

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IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

MAY 15, 2018

Mr. DUFFY (for himself and Mr. CLEAVER) introduced the following bill;  
which was referred to the Committee on Financial Services

JULY 10, 2018

Committed to the Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union  
and ordered to be printed

# A BILL

To authorize the Secretary of Housing and Urban Development to carry out a housing choice voucher mobility demonstration to encourage families receiving such voucher assistance to move to lower-poverty areas and expand access to opportunity areas.

1       *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*  
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

3 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

4       This Act may be cited as the “Housing Choice Vouch-  
5 er Mobility Demonstration Act of 2018”.

6 **SEC. 2. HOUSING CHOICE VOUCHER MOBILITY DEM-  
7 ONSTRATION.**

8       (a) AUTHORITY.—The Secretary of Housing and  
9 Urban Development (in this section referred to as the  
10 “Secretary”) may carry out a mobility demonstration pro-  
11 gram to enable public housing agencies to administer  
12 housing choice voucher assistance under section 8(o) of  
13 the United States Housing Act of 1937 (42 U.S.C.  
14 1437f(o)) in a manner designed to encourage families re-  
15 ceiving such voucher assistance to move to lower-poverty  
16 areas and expand access to opportunity areas.

17       (b) SELECTION OF PHAs.—

18           (1) REQUIREMENTS.—The Secretary shall es-  
19 tablish requirements for public housing agencies to  
20 participate in the demonstration program under this  
21 section, which shall provide that the following public  
22 housing agencies may participate:

23           (A) Public housing agencies that to-  
24 gether—

1                                     (i) serve areas with high concentrations  
2                                     of holders of rental assistance vouchers under section 8(o) of the United States  
3                                     Housing Act of 1937 (42 U.S.C. 1437f(o))  
4                                     in poor, low-opportunity neighborhoods;  
5                                     and

6  
7                                     (ii) have an adequate number of moderately priced rental units in higher-opportunity areas.

8  
9  
10                                 (B) Planned consortia or partial consortia  
11                                     of public housing agencies that—

12                                     (i) include at least one agency with a  
13                                     high-performing Family Self-Sufficiency  
14                                     (FSS) program; and

15                                     (ii) will enable participating families  
16                                     to continue in such program if they relocate to the jurisdiction served by any other  
17                                     agency of the consortium.

18  
19                                 (C) Planned consortia or partial consortia  
20                                     of public housing agencies that—

21                                     (i) serve jurisdictions within a single  
22                                     region;

23                                     (ii) include one or more small agencies; and

1                             (iii) will consolidate mobility focused  
2                             operations.

3                             (D) Such other public housing agencies as  
4                             the Secretary considers appropriate.

5                             (2) SELECTION CRITERIA.—The Secretary shall  
6                             establish competitive selection criteria for public  
7                             housing agencies eligible under paragraph (1) to  
8                             participate in the demonstration program under this  
9                             section.

10                             (3) RANDOM SELECTION OF FAMILIES.—The  
11                             Secretary may require participating agencies to use  
12                             a randomized selection process to select among the  
13                             families eligible to receive mobility assistance under  
14                             the demonstration program.

15                             (c) REGIONAL HOUSING MOBILITY PLAN.—The Sec-  
16                             retary shall require each public housing agency applying  
17                             to participate in the demonstration program under this  
18                             section to submit a Regional Housing Mobility Plan (in  
19                             this section referred to as a “Plan”), which shall—

20                             (1) identify the public housing agencies that  
21                             will participate under the Plan and the number of  
22                             vouchers each participating agency will make avail-  
23                             able out of their existing programs in connection  
24                             with the demonstration;

- 1                         (2) identify any community-based organizations,  
2                         nonprofit organizations, businesses, and other enti-  
3                         ties that will participate under the Plan and describe  
4                         the commitments for such participation made by  
5                         each such entity;
- 6                         (3) identify any waivers or alternative require-  
7                         ments requested for the execution of the Plan;
- 8                         (4) identify any specific actions that the public  
9                         housing agencies and other entities will undertake to  
10                         accomplish the goals of the demonstration, which  
11                         shall include a comprehensive approach to enable a  
12                         successful transition to opportunity areas and may  
13                         include counseling and continued support for fami-  
14                         lies;
- 15                         (5) specify the criteria that the public housing  
16                         agencies would use to identify opportunity areas  
17                         under the plan;
- 18                         (6) provide for establishment of priority and  
19                         preferences for participating families, including a  
20                         preference for families with young children, as such  
21                         term is defined by the Secretary, based on regional  
22                         housing needs and priorities; and
- 23                         (7) comply with any other requirements estab-  
24                         lished by the Secretary.
- 25                         (d) FUNDING FOR MOBILITY-RELATED SERVICES.—

1                             (1) USE OF ADMINISTRATIVE FEES.—Public  
2         housing agencies participating in the demonstration  
3         program under this section may use administrative  
4         fees under section 8(q) of the United States Housing  
5         Act of 1937 (42 U.S.C. 1437f(q)), their administra-  
6         tive fee reserves, and funding from private entities  
7         to provide mobility-related services in connection  
8         with the demonstration program, including services  
9         such as counseling, portability coordination, landlord  
10       outreach, security deposits, and administrative ac-  
11       tivities associated with establishing and operating re-  
12       gional mobility programs.

13                             (2) USE OF HOUSING ASSISTANCE FUNDS.—  
14         Public housing agencies participating in the dem-  
15         onstration under this section may use housing as-  
16         sistance payments funds under section 8(o) of the  
17         United States Housing Act of 1937 (42 U.S.C.  
18         1437f(o)) for security deposits if necessary to enable  
19         families to lease units with vouchers in designated  
20         opportunity areas.

21                             (e) WAIVERS; ALTERNATIVE REQUIREMENTS.—

22                             (1) WAIVERS.—To allow for public housing  
23         agencies to implement and administer their Regional  
24         Housing Mobility Plans, the Secretary may waive or  
25         specify alternative requirements for the following

1 provisions of the United States Housing Act of  
2 1937:

3 (A) Sections 8(o)(7)(A) and 8(o)(13)(E)(i)  
4 (relating to the term of a lease and mobility re-  
5 quirements).

6 (B) Section 8(o)(13)(C)(i) (relating to the  
7 public housing plan for an agency).

8 (C) Section 8(r)(2) (relating to the respon-  
9 sibility of a public housing agency to administer  
10 ported assistance).

11 (2) ALTERNATIVE REQUIREMENTS.—The Sec-  
12 retary shall provide additional authority for public  
13 housing agencies in a selected region to form a con-  
14 sortium that has a single housing choice voucher  
15 funding contract, or to enter into a partial consor-  
16 tium to operate all or portions of the Regional Hous-  
17 ing Mobility Plan, including agencies participating in  
18 the Moving To Work Demonstration program.

19 (3) EFFECTIVE DATE.—Any waiver or alter-  
20 native requirements pursuant to this subsection shall  
21 not take effect before the expiration of the 10-day  
22 period beginning upon publication of notice of such  
23 waiver or alternative requirement in the Federal  
24 Register.

1       (f) IMPLEMENTATION.—The Secretary may imple-  
2 ment the demonstration, including its terms, procedures,  
3 requirements, and conditions, by notice.

4       (g) EVALUATION.—Not later than five years after im-  
5 plementation of the regional housing mobility programs  
6 under the demonstration program under this section, the  
7 Secretary shall submit to the Congress and publish in the  
8 Federal Register a report evaluating the effectiveness of  
9 the strategies pursued under the demonstration, subject  
10 to the availability of funding to conduct the evaluation.  
11 Through official websites and other methods, the Sec-  
12 retary shall disseminate interim findings as they become  
13 available, and shall, if promising strategies are identified,  
14 notify the Congress of the amount of funds that would  
15 be required to expand the testing of these strategies in  
16 additional types of public housing agencies and housing  
17 markets.

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